36. Revenue and Criminal Jurisdiction in Nanjinad.

MR. V. S. RAMASWAMI (*Member, Municipal Council, Nagercoil*) complained that the location of the Division Assistant's office at Padmanabhapuram entailed great hardship on the merchants of Kottar and Nagercoil who had to produce their account books before him in income tax cases in respect of incomes between Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 10,000. Nagercoil was a thickly populated town. The Irrigation Board met at Nagercoil. The grievances of the people in revenue and irrigation matters could be more easily remedied if Nagercoil was made the headquarters of the Division Assistant. A Magistrate with first class powers should be at Nagercoil, which was only ten miles from the frontier where dacoities were common. The large number of motor vehicles plying to and from Nagercoil also made the appointment of a First Class Magistrate necessary. The absence of such an office at Nagercoil was felt even in connection with municipal administration.

The demand notices and tax receipts issued, and the registers, etc., maintained by the Land Revenue Department should be printed in Tamil also, as the local people could not understand Malayalam.

The selection of members of the Village Panchayat Courts and Bench Magistrates' Courts should be made in consultation with a non-official committee.

There was a plethora of young men who had passed the School Final and Intermediate Examinations seeking Government service, and it would be desirable to recruit *Proverticars*, etc., from such educated men.

DEWAN: The first subject relates to the transfer of the headquarters of the local Division Assistant from Padmanabhapuram to Nagercoil. There will not be enough work for two Assistants, one at Padmanabhapuram and another at Nagercoil. The transfer of the present Assistant at Padmanabhapuram can be more advantageously considered in connection with the separation of the judicial and executive functions. This scheme is now under consideration, and when it comes into effect, there will be one Division Assistant for magisterial work and another for revenue work. At that time, your proposal will also be taken up for consideration.

Then you said that demand notices and tax receipts should be issued in Tamil. The State Language is Malayalam and all these notices and forms have to be printed in Malayalam.

The member said that, even in the *Civil Courts' Guide*, it was stated that the Court language is Tamil as well as Malayalam.

DEWAN. Then Tamil and Malayalam should both be used in the same form. The matter will be enquired into to see whether it is possible to have the forms printed in diglott.

Then you wanted that, for the post of *Proverticars*, qualified men such as those who had passed the School Final or the Intermediate Examination, should alone be selected. This will be referred to the Land Revenue Commissioner and his report will be considered.

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37. Reform of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

MR. P. NARAYANA BHATTATIRI (*Member, Jenmies, Quilon Division*) brought forward the following suggestions for the reform and reconstitution of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

(i) Manhood suffrage should be granted.

(ii) Members should submit written representations.

(iii) Replies to representations should invariably be given before the next session of the Assembly.

(iv) When the officers of the Government differed from the opinions expressed in the representations, opportunities should be provided for a further discussion between them.

(v) The opening address of the Dewan should contain a statement of the action taken on the representations at the previous session.

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